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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants: SAMESHIMA, et al

Serial No.: 09/459,342

Filed: December 13, 1999

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR INTEGRATING DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION

Group: 2172

Examiner: E. Colbert

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF
NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 19, 2001

Sir:

Applicants' Attorney the undersigned, appreciates the information and discussion with Examiner Colbert regarding the status of the above-referenced application. As per Examiner Colbert the present application according to the United States Patent and Trademark Office records indicates a non-final Office Action was issued by the previous Examiner on January 12, 2001 and an Amendment responding to the January 12, 2001 non-final Office Action was filed on May 14, 2001.

The May 14, 2001 Amendment was not acted upon by the previous Examiner. Applicants then filed a Notice of Appeal on June 12, 2001 to maintain pendency of the present application. The Notice of Appeal was filed as an attempt to respond to what appears to have been an indication in the January 12, 2001 non-final Office Action that it was final, later determined by Examiner Colbert to have been erroneous. Unknown to Applicants,

responsibility of the present application was transferred from the previous Examiner to Examiner Colbert.

Examiner Colbert upon review of the January 12, 2001 non-final Office Action indicated that it appears the May 14, 2001 Amendment addressed many of the issues raised there. Examiner Colbert further indicated many of the issues raised in the January 12, 2001 non-final Office Action may require reconsideration to permit withdrawal, modification, etc.

Therefore, as discussed and agreed Applicants hereby request reconsideration of the May 14, 2001 Amendment, a copy of which is attached herewith, and withdrawal of the June 12, 2001 Notice of Appeal.

Applicants acknowledge that Examiner Colbert in response to the present Request for Reconsideration and Withdrawal of Notice of Appeal will withdraw the alleged finality as set forth in the January 12, 2001 non-final Office Action, examine the application based on the May 14, 2001 Amendment, and issue a new non-final Office Action. A communication to this effect is to be issued by Examiner Colbert. Applicants await the forthcoming Office Action.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an Extension of Time. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (566.36161CX1).

Respectfully submitted,

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